

Tender Title: Designing, Manufacturing, Supplying, Installation and Field Trial of 1 in 12 Canted Turnout with Thick-Web Switch, Lead Rails & Weldable CMS Crossing, PSC Sleepers & All Fastenings Along With Back-Driving Assembly Compatible with Indian Railway Standards (IRS) Type of Point Machine on IR, Including all Fittings, Fastenings, Fixtures, Stretcher Bars etc. as Required with Complete Arrangement, Excluding Point Machines, rodding's & Clamp Locks, meeting the laid down technical requirements i.e. generic specifications requirements issued by RDSO and for undertaking the field trial as applicable for Three variants of canted turnouts. Total quantity- 50 sets.

North Central Railway

Pre-Bid Clarification Comparison Report

Tender No. Trial05-2025-2026 | Canted Turnouts (1 in 12)

Vendors: Vossloh | Hindustan | Texmaco | VAE VKN | Rahee | Calcutta Spring

This report comprehensively consolidates and compares the pre-bid queries raised by six vendors against NCR's Tender No. Trial05-2025-2026 for supply of Canted Turnouts. It is structured in two parts:

- Part A — Common Decisions: Topics where NCR issued a uniform reply applicable to all vendors.
- Part B — Unique Vendor Queries: Distinct queries raised by individual vendors with vendor-specific NCR responses.

Part A: Common Decisions — Uniform NCR Responses

The following eight topics generated consistent queries from multiple vendors. NCR issued the same clarification or decision across all affected vendors. In the vendor columns, 'YES' indicates the vendor raised this specific query; '-' indicates they did not raise it (NCR's decision still applies to them).

Topic	NCR's Uniform Decision	Vossloh	Hindustan	Texmaco	VAE VKN	Rahee	Calcutta Sp.
Payment terms (revised)	Relaxed from 70/15/15% to 85/10/5% (on delivery / installation / trial completion). All six vendors requested this and NCR agreed uniformly.	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Delivery period (revised)	Extended to 18 months total: 5 months design/RDSO approval + 4 months supply (40% by month 2, 100% by month 4) + 3 months installation + 6 months trial.	YES	YES	YES	-	YES	YES
Installation scope	Supplier must install and commission at least 5 sets, and supervise at least 5% of total awarded quantity for each canted turnout design variant.	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-
Design is vendor's responsibility	All design parameters (geometry, length, fastening, etc.) are vendor's own within the FRS. RDSO scrutinises and approves. NCR pre-specifies nothing.	YES	-	YES	YES	-	YES

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Topic	NCR's Uniform Decision	Vossloh	Hindustan	Texmaco	VAE VKN	Rahee	Calcutta Sp.
Defect liability period	Retained at 4 years from date of laying first canted turnout in track, as per FRS. Requests to reduce to 36 months were not agreed.	YES	-	YES	YES	-	-
Additional security deposit (ASD)	ASD @ 2% of tender value retained as per FRS. Proportionately adjusted to actual awarded quantity. Full ASD released only after new ASD submitted for ordered quantity.	-	YES	YES	-	YES	-
Tender closing date extension	Not agreed. Closing date 15.01.2026 retained. NCR noted Christmas/New Year holiday period is well before the closing date so sufficient time is available.	YES	-	YES	-	-	-
Liquidated damages (LD) clause	Retained as per tender. DP extension/re-fixation to be decided on merit of each case. Requests for omission from Rahee and Calcutta Spring were rejected.	-	-	-	-	YES	YES

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Part B: Unique Vendor Queries — Individual NCR Responses

The following queries were raised exclusively by individual vendors and received vendor-specific responses from NCR. These are distinct from the common decisions above and are presented vendor-by-vendor.

Status legend:

Agreed / Clarification issued in favour of vendor	Not agreed / Rejected	Clarified / Noted	Design aspect / No pre-specification
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1. Vossloh Cogifer Turnout India Pvt. Ltd.

Topic / Clause	NCR Status	Vendor Query / Request	NCR's Reply / Clarification
Rolling stock parameters for design initiation	Design aspect – Not pre-specified	Requested specific rolling stock inputs at PO stage: wheel profiles (new and worn), axle types (4-axle, 6-axle), bogie angles, and vehicle dimensions — to be shared before design starts. Also requested 4–5% length variation allowance on overall turnout.	Design aspect. Vendor must offer their own design within FRS ambit. RDSO will scrutinise all parameters. No pre-specified rolling stock data will be provided by NCR.

2. Hindustan Engineering and Industries Ltd., Kolkata

Topic / Clause	NCR Status	Vendor Query / Request	NCR's Reply / Clarification
Nature and limitation of technical partner's liability	Not agreed – as per tender	Japanese technology partner unwilling to participate due to 'unlimited and unknown liability' for 4-year DLP period. Sought clarification or formal capping of liability scope so the partner would not risk liquidation.	As per tender document — joint and several liability for 4 years from first turnout laying stands. No modification to liability terms.

3. Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd., Kolkata

Topic / Clause	NCR Status	Vendor Query / Request	NCR's Reply / Clarification
Offset diagram variation and yard layout for NS02/NS03 variants	Design aspect – No pre-acceptance	For 50 kmph (NS02) and 55 kmph (NS03) variants, tangential switch geometry results in a different offset diagram compared to existing 1-in-12 turnout. Sought confirmation that geometric changes and yard layout modifications would be accepted at RDSO design approval stage (unlike NS01 where modification is explicitly disallowed).	Design aspect — vendor to propose within FRS ambit. RDSO approval governs. No pre-acceptance of any layout or yard changes given by NCR.

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Disproportionate supervision burden across speed variants	As per tender – Not modified	For the 60:30:10 quantity split (30/15/5 sets at 45/50/55 kmph), the '5 sets or 5% of total, whichever is more' rule creates supervision loads of ~16.7%, 33.3%, and 100% respectively — highly inequitable. Requested supervision % be applied to awarded quantity only. Also sought clarity on quantity-splitting percentages and whether the +30% option clause would be exercised at tender stage.	As per tender condition. Consignee confirmed as SSE/P.way/TD/PRYJ at trial locations in Prayagraj Division. No modification to supervision formula.
Copy of Railway Board cross-approval policy letter	Agreed – Copy provided	Requested copy of Railway Board letter no. 2021/Tk-I/(P)/Cross Approval dated 13.05.2022 with all amendments, to align design proposals with cross-approval requirements.	Copy attached and provided with the pre-bid reply document.
Warranty period vs. defect liability period conflict	Clarified – Both provisions separate	NIT specifies 54-month warranty from delivery while Special Conditions Clause 12 specifies 4-year DLP from laying — appeared contradictory. Requested harmonisation: 'whichever is earlier' approach.	Both provisions are distinct instruments. Warranty period of 54 months from date of delivery is applicable. DLP of 4 years from date of laying is separate. No conflict exists.

4. Voestalpine VAE VKN India Pvt. Ltd., Sonipat

Topic / Clause	NCR Status	Vendor Query / Request	NCR's Reply / Clarification
Technical specs: fastening system, base plate grade, CMS crossing hardness	Design aspect – RDSO to scrutinise	Three technical queries: (1) Fastening system specification not defined; (2) Material grade for base plates and slide chairs — cast steel vs fabricated — not specified (RDSO guidelines prefer cast steel for TWS); (3) Whether explosive depth hardening is required for CMS crossing.	Trial item — vendor proposes their own design. RDSO will handle approval of fastening system, base plate material, slide chairs, and CMS crossing hardness during design scrutiny phase.
FRS clause conflict: hollow sleeper (4.7) vs. IRS point machine (9.1)	Clarified – Both clauses compatible	FRS Annexure-B clause 4.7 mentions hollow sleepers for maintenance access without dismantling drive/detection assembly. Clause 9.1 mandates IRS-type point machine for operation. Sought clarification on apparent conflict between these two requirements.	No conflict: Clause 4.7 governs maintenance design (hollow sleeper permissible to aid access); Clause 9.1 governs operation (IRS-type point machine is mandatory). Design must satisfy both independently.
Minimum quantity threshold in eligibility criteria	Not agreed – Criteria retained as-is	Eligibility criteria did not specify a minimum number of canted turnouts previously supplied. VAE VKN proposed adding a floor of 100 sets supplied with satisfactory performance	Eligibility criteria as stated in the tender document is retained. No minimum quantity threshold will be added.

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		in last 3 years, to ensure genuine experience.	

5. Rahee Track Technology Pvt. Ltd., Howrah

Topic / Clause	NCR Status	Vendor Query / Request	NCR's Reply / Clarification
Security deposit exemption for RDSO-approved switch/crossing vendors	Agreed – Clarification issued	Sought clarification that vendors appearing on RDSO/PUs/CORE approved vendor lists for switches and/or crossings are exempt from depositing the security deposit, as intended under Para 15.0 G of Instructions to Tenderer.	Agreed. Vendors on RDSO/PUs/CORE approved list for any type of switches and/or crossings, with approval status valid on tender closing date, are exempted from depositing the Security Deposit.

6. Calcutta Spring Ltd., Kolkata

Topic / Clause	NCR Status	Vendor Query / Request	NCR's Reply / Clarification
Unconditional transfer of drawings/IP to RDSO (Annexure-I)	Not agreed – Annexure-I mandatory	Requested omission of Annexure-I (unconditional transfer of drawings, specifications, STR and other documents to RDSO/IR, plus indemnity). Cited that international collaborators are contractually restricted from transferring technical ownership to IR.	Cannot be omitted. Annexure-I is essential — after successful performance of a variant, utilisation of product design by IR for adoption is the purpose of this trial bid. Without IP transfer, adoption on IR cannot take place.
Delivery period commencement: from PO vs from design approval	Not agreed – DP starts from PO date	Requested DP commencement from RDSO design approval date rather than from PO date, arguing that delays in design approval are entirely outside vendor control and should not consume their delivery period.	Delivery period commences from date of PO issuance. No change. The revised 18-month total schedule already accommodates 5 months for design submission and RDSO approval.
Minimum switch entry angle (SEA) specification	Design aspect – Not pre-specified	FRS Para 4.3 states turnouts 'shall, preferably, be tangential with minimum switch entry angle (SEA)' without specifying a numerical value. Sought a concrete SEA figure to enable accurate design and smooth RDSO approval.	Design aspect — vendor must offer their own design within FRS ambit. RDSO will scrutinise the proposed SEA. No numerical value pre-specified by NCR.